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WYOMING

VOL. 25 NO. 11 NOV. 1988

LABOR FORCE TRENDS

TREND SETTERS

WYOMING	Aug '88	Sep '88
Labor Force	236,149	232,611
Employment	225,213	221,213
Unemployment	10,936	11,398
Rate (Raw)	4.6	4.9
Rate (S.A.)	5.5	6.0
Mining Hourly Wage	$14.62	$14.66
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	44.2	43.6
USA		
Rate (S.A.)	5.6	5.4
Mining Hourly Wage	$12.63	$12.79
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	42.0	42.5
Consumer Price Index		
All Urban (1982-1984 = 100)		
U.S. City Avg.	119.0	119.8
Year Change (U.S.)	+4.0	+4.2

S.A.-Seasonally Adjusted

IN THIS ISSUE:

— Wyoming Average Annual Pay Declines
— Wyoming Counties—A Ten Year Look

U.S. UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BACK AT 5.4 PERCENT

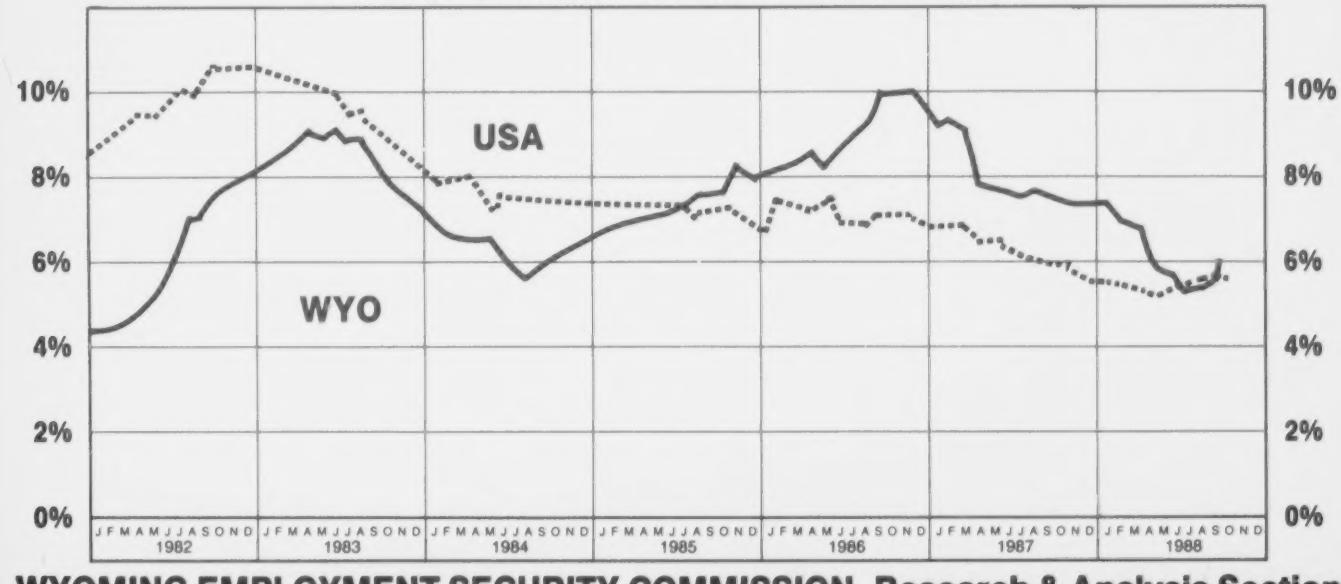
In September both the number of unemployed in the nation and the unemployment rate fell back to the July level of 6.6 million and 5.4 percent, seasonally adjusted. Since March the rate has been in the 5.3 to 5.6 percent range. The August rate was 5.6 percent and the September, 1987 rate stood at 5.9 percent.

Adult men accounted for the over-the-month decline in unemployment as their jobless rate returned to the July level of 4.5 percent. By contrast the rates for adult women (4.8 percent), teenagers (15.7 percent), whites (4.8 percent), and blacks (10.8 percent) showed little or no change from August.

WYOMING UNEMPLOYMENT AT 6.0 PERCENT

Seasonally adjusted, the Wyoming September unemployment rate stood at 6.0 percent, up from the August rate of 5.5 percent and down from the year ago rate of 7.7 percent. Wyoming's unadjusted unemployment rate for September, at 4.9 percent, was up seasonally from the previous month rate of 4.6 percent but continued

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, WYOMING AND THE U.S. (S.A.)



WYOMING EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION, Research & Analysis Section

Prepared in conjunction with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

down from the last year rate of 6.3 percent. Historical trends indicate that unemployment will continue its fall and winter seasonal upturn through January or February of 1989.

LABOR FORCE DECLINES CONTINUE

At 232,600, the September Wyoming labor force was down 3.1 percent statewide from a year ago. Most Wyoming counties, 18 out of 23, reflected this statewide downturn. Only Albany and Teton counties indicated healthy annual labor force gains of 4.0 and 9.2 percent, along with the lowest unemployment rates in the state of 3.1 and 2.7 percent. The only employment gains, on a statewide basis, were in manufacturing, mining and government. Other major industries in the state were at or below year ago levels. Construction continued to be hardest hit, down by 1,500 workers from a year ago, a decline of well over 13 percent.

WYOMING ECONOMIC PROBLEMS TYPICAL OF ROCKY MOUNTAIN AREA STATES

In August four of the states contiguous to Wyoming; Montana, Nebraska, Utah and Idaho had annual labor force declines. Only South Dakota and Colorado indicated over-the-year labor force growth. In addition, the average unemployment rate of these six states was 4.6 percent in August, the same as Wyoming.

WYOMING AVERAGE ANNUAL PAY DECLINES

The average annual pay of Wyoming workers covered by State and Federal Unemployment Insurance (UI) programs was $18,817, a 0.8 percent decrease over 1986, according to preliminary data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Alaska and Wyoming were the only states to experience a decrease in average annual pay. The decrease in Wyoming led to a drop from 20th to 30th in the all state's ranking.

Construction led Wyoming's declining industries with a -4.7 percent change for the one year period. Mining, retail trade, and services also fell 1.7, 0.4, and 0.1 percent, respectively.

There was good news for some industries. Transportation, communication, and public utilities had a 4.2 percent increase in average annual pay. Wholesale trade increased by 2.0 percent, and finance, insurance, and real estate increased by 1.9 percent.

Nationally, average annual pay increased 4.5 percent, climbing to $20,855 in 1987.

Annual average pay for the nation varied widely by industry. The mining industry, which includes oil and gas extraction, had the highest annual pay-$32,950. Wyoming's mining pay for 1987 was $34,085. The lowest annual pay-$11,513-was in the retail trade industry. Wyoming's annual pay in retail trade was $9,811.

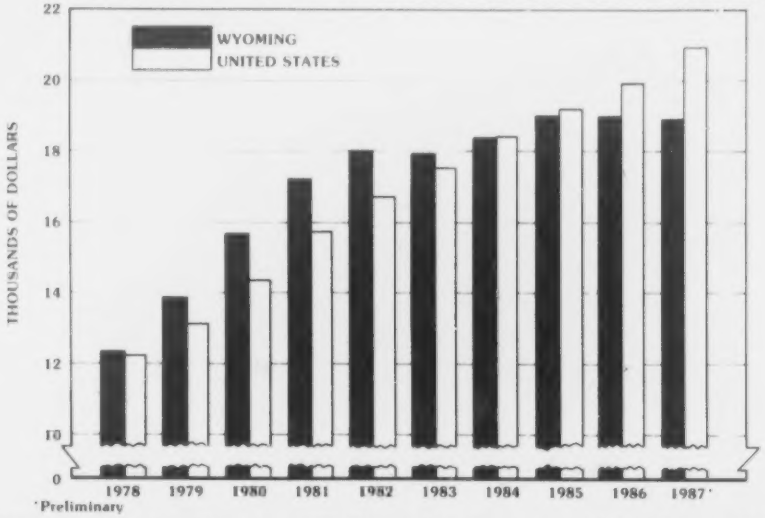
Annual average pay data are compiled from reports submitted by employers under UI programs. Average annual pay is computed by dividing total annual payrolls of employers covered by UI programs by average monthly employment for these employees. employment includes both full and part-time workers.

WYOMING AVERAGE ANNUAL PAY FOR 1986 AND 1987 AND PERCENT CHANGE FOR ALL COVERED WORKERS BY INDUSTRY[1]

Industry	Average annual pay		Percent change 1986-87[3]
	1986	1987[2]	
Private[4]			
Total	$18,572	$18,218	-1.9
Mining	34,669	34,085	-1.7
Construction	22,607	21,544	-4.7
Manufacturing	20,766	20,905	0.7
Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities	25,064	26,117	4.2
Wholesale Trade	21,760	22,185	2.0
Retail Trade	9,855	9,811	-0.4
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	18,439	18,785	1.9
Services	13,052	13,033	-0.1
Government	20,095	20,429	1.7

[1] Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.
[2] Data are preliminary.
[3] Percent changes were computed from unrounded average annual pay data and may differ from those computed using data rounded to the nearest dollar.
[4] Includes data for industries in addition to those shown separately.

WYOMING AND U.S. – AVERAGE ANNUAL PAY – 1978-1987



Prepared by: W.E.S.C., Research and Analysis, November, 1988. Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, September, 1988.

FREMONT, WYOMING
1976-1986

Fremont County's 1986 population of 35,300 ranked 5th in the state.

PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME

In 1986, Fremont had a per capita personal income (PCPI) of $10,344. This PCPI ranked 21st in the state, and was 81 percent of the state average ($12,774) and 71 percent of the national average ($14,639). In 1976, Fremont's PCPI of $5,581 ranked 19th in the state. The average annual growth rate of PCPI over the past 10 years was 6.4 percent, more than the state average (6.3 percent) and less than the national average (8.2 percent).

TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME

In 1986, Fremont had a total personal income (TPI) of $365,191*. This TPI ranked 5th in the state and accounted for 5.6 percent of the state total. In 1976, Fremont's TPI of $181,052* ranked 4th in the state. The average annual growth rate of TPI over the past 10 years was 7.3 percent, less than the state average (9.0 percent) and less than the national average (9.3 percent).

EARNINGS BY INDUSTRY

Earnings of persons employed in Fremont increased from $148,857* in 1976 to $247,098* in 1986, an average annual growth rate of 5.2 percent. The largest industries in 1986 were state and local government, which accounted for 25.5 percent of earnings; services, 20.8 percent; and retail trade, 11.4 percent. In 1976, the largest industries were mining, with 27.2 percent of earnings; state and local government, 14.9 percent; and services, 14.6 percent. Of the industries that accounted for at least five percent of earnings in 1986, the slowest growing from 1976 to 1986 was mining (9.4 percent of earnings in 1986), which declined at an average annual rate of 5.4 percent; the fastest was state and local government, which increased at an average annual rate of 11.0 percent.

GOSHEN, WYOMING
1976-1986

Goshen County's 1986 population of 12,600 ranked 13th in the state.

PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME

In 1986, Goshen had a per capita personal income (PCPI) of $10,911. This PCPI ranked 19th in the state, and was 85 percent of the state average ($12,774) and 75 percent of the national average ($14,639). In 1976, Goshen's PCPI of $5,325 ranked 20th in the state. The average annual growth rate of PCPI over the past 10 years was 7.4 percent, more than the state average (6.3 percent) and less than the national average (8.2 percent).

TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME

In 1986, Goshen had a total personal income (TPI) of $137,892*. This TPI ranked 14th in the state and accounted for 2.1 percent of the state total. In 1976, Goshen's TPI of $65,003* ranked 13th in the state. The average annual growth rate of TPI over the past 10 years was 7.8 percent, less than the state average (9.0 percent) and less than the national average (9.3 percent).

EARNINGS BY INDUSTRY

Earnings of persons employed in Goshen increased from $42,338* in 1976 to $75,714* in 1986, an average annual growth rate of 6.0 percent. The largest industries in 1986 were state and local government, which accounted for 23.9 percent of earnings; services, 17.0 percent; and retail trade, 11.9 percent. In 1976, the largest industries were state and local government, with 16.7 percent of earnings; retail trade, 16.0 percent; services, 13.7 percent; and construction, 10.6 percent. Of the industries that accounted for at least five percent of earnings in 1986, the slowest growing from 1976 to 1986 was retail trade, which increased at an average annual rate of 2.9 percent; the fastest was state and local government, which increased at an average annual rate of 9.8 percent.

*All income estimates with the exception of PCPI are in thousands of dollars.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - (1982-1984 = 100)

ALL URBAN

	ALL ITEMS	FOOD & BEVERAGE	HOUSING	ENTER-TAINMENT	APPAREL & UPKEEP	TRANSP.	MEDICAL
September 1988	119.8	120.1	119.9	121.3	117.8	109.7	140.4
Annual % Change	4.2	5.2	3.7	4.5	4.0	2.9	6.6

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 1

WYOMING ECONOMIC INDICATORS

ITEM	SEP 1988[1]	AUG 1988[1]	SEP 1987[2]	Percent change From A Month Ago	Percent change From A Year Ago
WYOMING EMPLOYMENT DATA					
Total Civilian Labor Force	232,611	236,149	239,969	- 1.5	- 3.1
Unemployment	11,398	10,936	15,114	4.2	- 24.6
Employed Labor Force	221,213	225,213	224,855	- 1.8	- 1.6
a. Covered Employment (Under Wyo. UI Law)[3]	177,000	174,100	178,672	1.7	- 0.9
b. Agriculture[3]	11,390	14,365	12,501	- 20.7	- 8.9
Total Unemployment Rate (Wyo.) Seas. Adj.*	4.9% 6.0%*	4.6% 5.5%*	6.3% 7.7%*	XXX	XXX
Total Unemployment Rate (U.S.) Seas. Adj.*	5.2% 5.4%*	5.4% 5.6%*	5.7% 5.9%*	XXX	XXX
Insured Unemployment Rate (Wyo.)[4]	1.2%	1.6%	1.6%	XXX	XXX
HOURS & EARNINGS					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 639.18	$ 646.20	$ 617.03	- 1.1	3.6
Average Weekly Hours	43.6	44.2	44.2	- 1.4	- 1.4
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 14.66	$ 14.62	$ 13.96	0.3	5.0
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE					
Claims Filed in Local Offices	10,020	13,389	14,802	- 25.2	- 32.3
a. Initial	1,836	1,607	2,061	14.3	- 10.9
Weeks Compensated	6,605	9,085	13,425	- 27.3	- 50.8
Total Amount Benefits Paid	$ 1,035,111	$ 1,401,735	$ 2,105,024	- 26.2	- 50.8
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$ 156.07	$ 153.75	$ 156.40	1.5	- 0.2
EMPLOYMENT SERVICE					
New Applications Received During Month	N.A.	N.A.	3,030	XXX	XXX
Non-Ag. Openings Received	N.A.	N.A.	3,171	XXX	XXX
Non-Ag. Placements	N.A.	N.A.	2,570	XXX	XXX
UNITED STATES DATA					
HOURS & EARNINGS					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 543.58	$ 530.46	$ 528.75	2.5	2.8
Average Weekly Hours	42.5	42.0	42.3	1.2	0.5
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 12.79	$ 12.63	$ 12.50	1.3	2.3
PRICE INDEXES					
Consumer Price Index 1982-84 = 100	119.8	119.0	115.0	0.7	4.2
Producer Prices, All Commodities 1982-84 = 100	108.1	108.0	103.7	0.1	4.2
Food and Beverage 1982-84 = 100	120.1	119.4	114.2	0.6	5.2

[1] Preliminary. [2] Final. [3] Not Benchmarked to the Current Population Survey. [4] Rate does not include claimants receiving benefits under extended benefit provisions.

Source: Wyoming Employment Security Commission and Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 2

WYOMING
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE & UNEMPLOYMENT

(Prepared in Cooperation with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE					UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	SEP 1988	AUG 1988	SEP 1987	%CHANGE AUG-SEP	%CHANGE SEP-SEP	SEP 1988	AUG 1988	SEP 1987	SEP 1988	AUG 1988	SEP 1987
Statewide	232,611	236,149	239,969	- 1.5	- 3.1	11,398	10,936	15,114	4.9	4.6	6.3
Statewide Seasonally adjusted									6.0	5.5	7.7
Albany	16,576	16,219	15,932	2.2	4.0	517	389	477	3.1	2.4	3.0
Big Horn	4,679	4,698	4,757	- 0.4	- 1.6	303	279	323	6.5	5.9	6.8
Campbell	14,425	14,605	15,215	- 1.2	- 5.2	882	748	1,070	6.1	5.1	7.0
Carbon	7,565	8,266	7,862	- 8.5	- 3.8	372	421	542	4.9	5.1	6.9
Converse	5,117	5,107	5,515	0.2	- 7.2	342	318	394	6.7	6.2	7.1
Crook	3,325	3,243	3,236	2.5	2.8	149	99	152	4.5	3.1	4.7
Fremont	14,816	14,376	15,338	3.1	- 3.4	918	913	1,156	6.2	6.4	7.5
Goshen	5,878	6,038	6,077	- 2.6	- 3.3	198	290	306	3.4	4.8	5.0
Hot Springs	3,080	3,133	3,103	- 1.7	- 0.7	139	118	216	4.5	3.8	7.0
Johnson	3,586	3,621	3,563	- 1.0	0.6	157	137	202	4.4	3.8	5.7
Laramie	35,793	35,665	36,898	0.4	- 3.0	1,482	1,424	1,875	4.1	4.0	5.1
Lincoln	5,876	6,002	6,444	- 2.1	- 8.8	375	332	551	6.4	5.5	8.6
Natrona	30,400	29,943	31,490	1.5	3.5	1,588	1,429	2,433	5.2	4.8	7.7
Niobrara	2,007	2,263	2,075	- 11.3	- 3.3	70	59	103	3.5	2.6	5.0
Park	13,351	14,504	13,332	- 7.9	0.1	501	528	679	3.8	3.6	5.1
Platte	4,337	4,272	4,342	1.5	- 0.1	192	240	257	4.4	5.6	5.9
Sheridan	11,497	11,595	12,470	- 0.8	- 7.8	507	588	765	4.4	5.1	6.1
Sublette	2,470	2,577	2,856	- 4.2	- 13.5	158	139	247	6.4	5.4	8.6
Sweetwater	16,932	16,741	18,627	1.1	- 9.1	1,147	1,241	1,547	6.8	7.4	8.3
Teton	13,205	15,686	12,090	- 15.8	9.2	351	213	393	2.7	1.4	3.3
Uinta	9,672	9,553	10,468	1.2	- 7.6	689	627	878	7.1	6.6	8.4
Washakie	4,771	4,871	4,827	- 2.1	- 1.2	192	243	302	4.0	5.0	6.3
Weston	3,256	3,175	3,453	2.6	- 5.7	170	163	246	5.2	5.1	7.1
United States									5.2	5.4	5.7
United States Seasonally adjusted									5.4	5.6	5.9

*The data contained in this table includes updated procedures mandated by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. In addition The 1985 data has been benchmarked to the Current Population Survey as conducted in Wyoming.

Table 3

NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

(Prepared in Cooperation with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT (In thousands)			% Change in Total Emp.	
	SEP 1988[2]	AUG 1988[3]	SEP 1987	AUG 1988	SEP 1987
	Total	Total	Total	to SEP 1988	to SEP 1988
WYOMING NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT					
Total Non-Farm Wage & Salary Employment	181.7	181.0	183.6	0.4	- 1.0
Manufacturing	8.5	8.3	8.4	2.4	1.2
Durable Goods	3.8	3.9	3.8	- 2.6	0.0
Nondurable Goods	4.7	4.4	4.6	6.8	2.2
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.9	1.0	0.9	- 10.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	173.2	172.7	175.2	0.3	- 1.1
Mining	18.2	18.0	18.1	1.1	0.6
Contract Construction	9.6	9.7	11.1	- 1.0	- 13.5
Transportation & Public Utilities	12.6	12.6	12.8	0.0	- 1.6
Railroad Transportation	1.9	1.9	2.0	0.0	- 5.0
Transportation except Railroads	4.7	4.7	4.9	0.0	- 4.1
Comm., Elect., Gas & Sani. Serv.	6.0	6.0	5.9	0.0	1.7
Wholesale & Retail Trade	40.2	41.0	41.2	- 2.0	- 2.4
Wholesale Trade	6.8	6.7	6.8	1.5	0.0
Retail Trade	33.4	34.3	34.4	- 2.6	- 2.9
Food Stores	5.1	4.9	5.0	4.1	2.0
Automotive Dealers & Serv. Stat.	5.3	5.3	5.3	0.0	0.0
Eating & Drinking Places	12.3	13.4	13.1	- 8.2	- 6.1
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	7.1	7.2	7.4	- 1.4	- 4.1
Services	33.8	36.0	34.1	- 6.1	- 0.9
Personal Services	1.9	1.9	1.8	0.0	5.6
Medical & Other Health Services	7.9	7.9	7.6	0.0	4.0
Government	51.7	48.2	50.5	7.3	2.4
Federal Government	8.6	8.7	8.4	- 1.2	2.4
State & Local Government	43.1	39.5	42.1	9.1	2.4
State Government	12.4	12.6	12.8	- 1.6	- 3.1
Local Government	30.7	26.9	29.3	14.1	4.8

(See Footnotes at End of Table)

NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

Table 3 (Cont'd) *(Publication of Cheyenne data is not sanctioned by the Bureau of Labor Statistics)*

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT (In thousands)			% Change in Total Emp.	
	SEP 1988[2]	AUG 1988[3]	SEP 1987	AUG 1988	SEP 1987
	Total	Total	Total	to SEP 1988	to SEP 1988
CASPER (Natrona County)					
TOTAL NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	26.7	26.2	26.6	1.9	0.4
Manufacturing	1.4	1.4	1.3	0.0	7.7
Nondurable Goods	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.0	- 25.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	25.3	24.8	25.3	2.0	0.0
Mining	2.7	2.7	2.7	0.0	0.0
Oil & Gas Extraction	2.5	2.5	2.5	0.0	0.0
Other Mining, Quarrying, etc.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Contract Construction	1.4	1.4	1.6	0.0	- 12.5
Transportation & Public Utilities	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0	0.0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	8.0	8.0	7.8	0.0	2.6
Wholesale Trade	2.4	2.4	2.3	0.0	4.4
Retail Trade	5.6	5.6	5.5	0.0	1.8
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0
Services	5.3	5.3	5.4	0.0	- 1.9
Government	4.8	4.3	4.7	11.6	2.1
Federal Government	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.0	- 14.3
State & Local Government	4.2	3.7	4.0	13.5	5.0
CHEYENNE (Laramie County)					
TOTAL NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	30.2	29.8	30.5	1.3	- 1.0
Manufacturing	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	29.1	28.7	29.4	1.4	- 1.0
Contract Construction	2.1	2.0	2.3	5.0	- 8.7
Transportation & Public Utilities	2.4	2.5	2.5	- 4.0	- 4.0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	7.1	7.1	7.1	0.0	0.0
Wholesale Trade	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	6.4	6.4	6.4	0.0	0.0
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.8	1.8	1.9	0.0	- 5.3
Services & Miscellaneous	5.8	5.8	5.7	0.0	1.8
Government	9.8	9.4	9.8	4.3	0.0
Federal Government	2.7	2.7	2.8	0.0	- 3.6
State & Local Government	7.1	6.7	7.0	6.0	1.4

[1] Estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary workers in non-ag establishments who worked or received pay during the week which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employeds, domestic servants and personnel of the armed forces are excluded. [2] Subject to revision. [3] Revised figures.

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WYOMING LABOR FORCE TRENDS

The *Wyoming Labor Force Trends* is published monthly by the Research and Analysis Section of the Wyoming Employment Security Commission.

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ISSN 0512-4409